taxes.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Tax evasion cases in Dfijrugarh and Ahmedabad

2667. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Member (Investigation), Central Board of Direct Taxes has received information in May, 1991 regarding substantial tax evasion by certain parties at Dibrugarh (Assam) and Ahmedabad, substantial benami bank accounts at Dibrugarh involving transactions worth lakhs of rupees, illegal current account with the then United Industrial Bank Limited, Dibrugarh branch in collusion with both the branch manager and the accountant of the said bank involving withdrawal of several lakhs of rupees fraudulently from the said account etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what follow-up action has been taken in the matter so far;

(c) whether Government propose an independent enquiry by some senior officers other than those in the concerned Commissioneries in view of the wide influence of the involved tax evaders; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the information as in (a) above were also handed over to the then Member (Investigation) in September, 1985 and no action was taken thereon; and

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to expedite the enquiry/investigations in the long pending informations as aforesaid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) A petition dated May 27, 1991 containing details of information alleged to have been furnished earlier in respect of certain parties of Dibrugarh and Ahmedabad was received in the Central Board of Direct Taxes. A copy of the petition was sent to the concerned Chief Commissioner of Income-tax for ascertaining facts relating to the allegations against the persons named in the petition. The Enquiries have been conducted and they indicate that the aforesaid petition has been made as a result of family disputes over HUF properties by a member of the family itself.

(c) There is nothing to warrant investigation by any authority other than the concerned officers having jurisdiction over the matter.

(d) No such letter of September, 1985 appears to have been received.

(e) Since the reply to party (d) is in the negative, does not arise.

European Community strategy for Indian Development

2668. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:
SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the European Community has a special cooperation strategy for India for 1991-95 as per the news item entitled "EC Strategy for India's Development" which appeared in the Times of India, dated October 18, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the new development projects identified for EC financing in the country during 1991-95; and

(c) what are the existing projects under EC assistance the terms on which the same has been made available and how far it has been beneficial to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) While a news item on the subject has appeared in the press, there has been no communication from the EC regarding any special cooperation strategy for India for 1991-95. It is, however understood that a proposal for development cooperation